

21st International Meeting of Specialists on Information on Time Use and Unpaid Work

Concept note

September 25, 2023 (back-to-back to the Statistical Conference of the Americas), Santiago, Chile

Venue: Celso Furtado Hall

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean - ECLAC

Av. Dag Hammarskjöld 3477, Santiago de Chile.

Organizers:

- Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), Division for Gender Affairs and Statistics Division
- National Institute of Statistics and Geography of Mexico (INEGI)
- National Women's Institute of Mexico (INMUJERES)
- United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women)
- United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD)¹

Background and Context

Over the last two decades, Latin America and the Caribbean have recognized the study of time use as a key area for quantifying the time allocated to daily activities, understanding essential components of societies' social and economic structure, and highlighting the unequal distribution of work between women and men.

In the same vein, in the [Buenos Aires Commitment \(2022\)](#), approved at the [XV Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean](#), the countries of the region have agreed to "encourage the measurement of the multiplier effects of boosting the care economy in terms of labour market participation by women in their diversity, and of well-being, redistribution, economic growth and the macroeconomic impact of the care economy, including through the periodic measurement of time use, needs and demand for care in diverse territories, valuation of unpaid work in national accounts, cost estimation and calculation of the investment and return related to care policies and systems." The above is consistent with the [Montevideo Strategy](#) (2016), which includes the "rigid sexual division of labour and the unjust social organization of care" as one of the four structural challenges for achieving gender equality, and stipulates the need to adopt gender information systems as one of the pillars for the implementation of the Regional Gender Agenda.

The region has documented its experiences in time use measurement, the diversity of tools used, the lessons learned in this regard, and the cases of public policy design that have used time use information in their formulation.

¹ Sponsored by the Project of the Account of Development for Time-Use Data for Better Policies in Africa, West Asia and Latin America.

Thus, the periodic measurement of time use with agreed and comparable methodologies is crucial for recognizing and analyzing gender inequalities and obtaining relevant information for overcoming the sexual division of labour, implementing public policies, and moving towards a care society.² These measurements³ make it possible to account for the unpaid work performed mainly by women; to value care as a need, a job, and a right; and to estimate the multiplier effects of promoting the care economy on the well-being of society.

By 2023, 23 Latin American and Caribbean countries have carried out at least one time measurement focused on domestic and care work, while 10 have placed an economic value on unpaid household work and 5 have calculated the satellite account of unpaid household work.⁴ These advances have been articulated with the [Regional Gender Agenda](#), conforming with the commitments and strategies derived from the Regional Conference on Women (RCW) and the Statistical Conference of the Americas (SCA), both subsidiary bodies of ECLAC.

The Working Group on Gender Statistics⁵ within the framework of the SCA has been a key forum for making progress in the diagnosis and harmonization of time-use statistics and indicators in the region, especially through the adoption of regional standards. In particular, two instruments stand out in this field. The first is the [Classification of Time-Use Activities for Latin America and the Caribbean \(CAUTAL\)](#)⁶, a statistical classification with a gender perspective and appropriate to the regional context.⁷ The second is the [Methodological Guide on Time-Use Measurements in Latin America and the Caribbean](#).⁸ Some of the main contributions of this Guide are to provide common guidelines for methodological decision-making in the production of statistical information on time use, and a minimum set of 31 necessary activities (together with a standard questionnaire to operationalize them), and with a gender perspective so that the main time-use indicators (in particular SDG indicator 5.4.1) are comparable at the regional level.

Also, recognizing the urgent need to strengthen capacities at the national level to collect and use time-use data to inform policies and approaches to implement the 2030 Development Agenda at local, national and regional levels, the United Nations Statistics Division and the *Expert Group on Innovative and Effective Ways to Collect Time-Use Statistics* have been working towards the implementation of the *International Classification of Activities for Time-Use Statistics 2016* and the modernization of time-use surveys, in the context of the update of the *Guide to Producing Statistics on Time Use: Measuring Paid and Unpaid Work* (referred to here as the UN Guidelines). The revision of the UN Guidelines promotes solutions and tools based on a common set of minimum criteria that improve international comparability while facilitating regular measurements over time and ensuring the quality of information.

² *The care society: A horizon for a sustainable recovery with gender equality*, ECLAC (2022).

³ Using time-use measurements as a source, 18 countries in the region count with the calculation of SDG indicator 5.4.1: "Proportion of time spent on unpaid housework and care work, disaggregated by sex, age and location." In the region, women spend 3 times more time than men on unpaid domestic and care work. Indicator available at the following [website](#).

⁴ *Breaking the Statistical Silence to Achieve Gender Equality by 2030*, ECLAC (2022).

⁵ This Group was active between 2006 and 2019. Starting in 2020, the Statistical Conference of the Americas stipulated that its working groups should focus on developing specific products during each two-year period. Thus, during the 2020 - 2021 biennium, the Working Group for the elaboration of the Methodological Guide on Time Use Measurements in Latin America and the Caribbean was active; and during the 2022 and 2023 biennium, the Working Group has been working preparing the Guidelines for mainstreaming the gender perspective into statistical production.

⁶ ECLAC, INEGI, INMUJERES & UN Women, 2016. Adopted by ECLAC member countries at the VIII Meeting of the SCA (2015).

⁷ The process of developing this classification considered the articulation with the *International Classification of Activities for Time-Use Statistics* (ICATUS) in the context of a joint work with UNSD in the revision of guidelines for the measurement of time use.

⁸ Adopted by ECLAC member countries at the XI Meeting of the SCA (2021).

In this context, the International Experts Meetings of Specialists on Time Use and Unpaid Work (TUM) have been held annually in Mexico since 2002. In recent years, the TUM has been held in conjunction with the International Meetings on Gender Statistics - EIEG, held at INEGI's headquarters in Aguascalientes, also on an annual basis. Through its coordination in the Working Group and its participation in the organization of the 21 editions of the TUM, Mexico has established itself as a leading country in the region in the promotion of exchanges on gender statistics, also promoting regional positioning and contributions at the global level.

The TUM has been a fundamental space for reflecting on and exchanging experiences, challenges and good practices regarding the production and use of information on time use with a gender perspective in the region, as well as for advancing towards the development of the instruments above, which promote greater harmonization, improve the quality of time-use statistics, and promote their use for the generation of public policies that contribute to women's autonomy. In this context, the TUM has encouraged the creation of regulations for gathering time use information and constructing satellite accounts on the care economy, and has promoted the collection of this information on a regular basis.

The XXI edition of this meeting will be held for the first time in Santiago, Chile, on September 25, 2023, within the framework of the [XII Meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas \(SCA-ECLAC\)](#). The main objective of this meeting is to promote the technical exchange of recent experiences among the countries of the Latin American and Caribbean region that have surveys, modules or sets of questions for measuring time use, as well as to promote the transfer of knowledge to countries that are planning on implementing this type of statistical operations in the near future. The meeting will be attended by authorities and specialists from the National Statistical Offices and representatives of the Mechanisms for the Advancement of Women from countries in the region, emphasizing those in the process of using statistical information to design public policies on care and gender equality.

AGENDA

Time	Activity
08:45 – 09:00	Arrival and registration of participants
09:00 – 09:30	<p>Opening Remarks: time-use measurements as a fundamental contribution to move towards the Care Society</p> <p>Moderation: Rolando Ocampo, Director of the Statistics Division of ECLAC.</p> <p>José Manuel Salazar, Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).</p> <p>Graciela Márquez, President of the National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI), Mexico (online) and Mauricio Rodríguez Abreu, Chief of Sociodemographic Statistics (INEGI), Mexico.</p> <p>Nadine Gasman, President of the National Women's Institute (INMUJERES), Mexico (online).</p> <p>Francesca Grum, Deputy Director and Chief, Demographic and Social Statistics Section, United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) (online).</p> <p>Gabriela Rosero, Head of Office UN Women Chile.</p>
09:30 – 11:20	<p>Session 1. Recent results on time use in Latin America and the Caribbean: information for care and gender equality policies</p> <p>Goal: To generate a space in which countries with recent measurements on time use (published during 2022-2023) present their main results in terms of findings that reflect social transformations in the use of time; and secondly, to highlight the dialogue of these findings with the formulation of gender equality policies led by the Mechanisms for the Advancement of Women as users of this information.</p> <p>Moderation: Lucía Scuro, Senior Social Affairs Officer, ECLAC Division for Gender Affairs.</p> <p>Round 1. Production and Dissemination of Time-Use Statistics (60 minutes)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marco Lavagna, National Institute of Statistics and Censuses of Argentina. • Brenda Miranda, National Institute of Statistics of Guatemala. • Freddy Araya Arroyo, National Institute of Statistics and Census of Costa Rica. • Diego Aboal, National Institute of Statistics of Uruguay (to be confirmed). • Piedad Urdinola, National Administrative Department of Statistics of Colombia. <p>Round 2. Use of time use information for equality policies (20 minutes)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cristian Silva, Ministry of Women, Genders and Diversity, Argentina. • Natalia Reyes, National Institute of Women, Uruguay. <p>Dialogue and questions (30 minutes)</p>
11:20 – 11:45	Photo and coffee

Time	Activity
11:45 – 13:00	<p>Session 2. Current information needs in the context of building National Care Systems</p> <p>Goal: To generate a space in which countries with field operations and actions for planning time-use measurements can present the novelties, successes, and challenges in their design and collection processes, demonstrating how the planning of these processes has included the Mechanisms for the Advancement of Women during the identification of information needs related to time use for these statistical projects. The goal is to discuss how the evolving dynamics of time use have been integrated into data-gathering processes, as well as the interaction between producing and user institutions in preparing new surveys, addressing how new requests for information were identified and attended.</p> <p>Moderation: Andrea Llerena, Regional Advisor on Data and Statistics, UN Women Regional Office for the Americas and the Caribbean.</p> <p>Round 1. National statistical offices representative presentations (40 minutes)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agustín Arce, National Institute of Statistics of Chile. • Mauricio Rodríguez Abreu, National Institute of Statistics and Geography of Mexico. • Miosotis Rivas Peña, National Statistics Office of the Dominican Republic. • Rachel Jacob, Grenada Central Statistical Office. <p>Round 2. Presentation remarks from machineries for the advancement of women (20 minutes)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lylían Miren, Ministry of Women and Gender Equity, Chile. • Celia Aguilar, National Institute for Women, Mexico. <p>Dialogue and questions (20 minutes)</p>
13:00 – 14:30	Lunch
14:30 – 15:40	<p>Session 3. Valuation of unpaid domestic and care work in the framework of the national accounts: potentialities and challenges</p> <p>Goal: To generate a space for countries to present the methodological and institutional challenges that arise when accounting for unpaid domestic and care work at an aggregate level for the generation of satellite accounts and derivative products, and to disseminate their results. The foregoing is based on the importance of valuing unpaid work from the international framework and addressing discussions on the border of the valuation of unpaid work, such as the inclusion of passive care.</p> <p>Moderation: Celia Aguilar, General Director of Planning and Evaluation, INMUJERES, Mexico.</p> <p>Interventions by national statistical representatives (40 minutes)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Freddy Araya Arroyo, National Institute of Statistics and Census of Costa Rica. • Rosa María Licea, National Institute of Statistics and Geography of Mexico. • Piedad Urdinola, National Administrative Department of Statistics of Colombia. • Giselle Pablovsky, National Institute of Statistics and Censuses of Argentina.

Time	Activity
	Dialogue and questions (30 minutes)
15:40 – 16:00	Coffee break
16:00 – 17:15	<p>Session 4. New dynamics in the use of time and future methodological challenges</p> <p>Goal: To generate a space for technical exchange to address new needs and recent inclusions of topics in the Time-Use Surveys (e.g., care services through digital channels, virtual care activities, other recent additions to collection operations, or identified needs) and to address frequently asked questions on the design of measurements for policy formulation.</p> <p>Moderation: Norma Navarro, Director of Conceptual Design of Special Surveys, INEGI, México.</p> <p>Speakers presentations (45 minutes)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carolina Miranda, National Secretariat of Care and Family, Ministry of Social Development and Assistance, Family and Fight against Hunger, Brazil (online), and Andrea Diniz da Silva, Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics - IBGE, Brazil. • Giselle Pablovsky, National Institute of Statistics and Censuses of Argentina. • Iliana Vaca Trigo, UNSD (online). • Halim Brizan, CARICOM-Regional Statistics Programme. <p>Dialogue and questions (30 minutes)</p>
17:15 – 17:45	<p>Closing</p> <p>Celia Aguilar, General Director of Planning and Evaluation, INMUJERES, Mexico.</p> <p>Graciela Márquez, President of the National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI), Mexico.</p> <p>Gabriela Rosero, Head of Office UN Women Chile.</p> <p>Ana Gúezmes, Director of the Gender Affairs Division of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).</p>